IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yasuaki NOZAWA et al. Conf.:

Appl. No.: NEW Group:

Filed: March 11, 2004 Examiner:

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING

HYDROPHOBIC SILICA FINE POWDER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 March 11, 2004

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This amendment includes: amendments to the specification and Remarks.